

Message Text

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ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 ACDA-10 CIAE-00 INR-07

IO-10 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OES-05 FEAE-00 ERDA-07 /064 R

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COM/BIC/OED/MEPD/JMSANDS

STATE/EA/TB/JKLEMSTINE (PHONE)

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P 051534Z MAR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, T;

SUBJECT: NUCLEAR RESEARCH REACTOR CONVERSION, THAILAND

1. USDOC MEPD HAS BEEN ADVISED BY MR. ROBERT CHESWORTH, MARKETING MANAGER, TRIGA REACTOR, GENERAL ATOMIC COMPANY, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA TODAY MARCH 4 THAT SALES OPPORTUNITY HE HAS BEEN PURSUING MAY BE IN JEOPARDY. EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IS REQUESTED.

2. GENERAL ATOMIC (GA), THE ONLY REMAINING U.S. MANUFACTURER OF NUCLEAR RESEARCH REACTOR HAS BEEN WORKING WITH THE THAI OFFICE OF ATOMIC ENERGY FOR PEACE TO UPGRADE THE THAI RESEARCH REACTOR, ORIGINALLY SUPPLIED BY CURTIS-WRIGHT. GA FEELS IT HAS CONVINCED THE THAI OFFICE TO CONVERT ITS EXISTING REACTOR CORE WITH AN IMPROVED GA TRIGA REACTOR CORE. BECAUSE OF RTG PROCUREMENT

POLICIES, BIDS WERE PUBLICLY CALLED ON JANUARY 27 WITH CLOSING DATE OF FEBRUARY 27. GA BANGKOK REPRESENTATIVE, MR. SARIS DIGUNA KITTIYAKARA (SHELL COMPANY, THAILAND LTD.,

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TEL: 518-291) HAS ADVISED THAT GA WAS THE ONLY BIDDER.

3. TODAY, GA'S REP TELEXED SAN DIEGO THAT HE HAS HEARD
FROM THE THAI OFFICE OF ATOMIC ENERGY FOR PEACE THAT THE

U.S. EMBASSY BANGKOK HAS REQUESTED THE OFFICE TO EXTEND
THE BID DEADLINE BY 30 DAYS. WASHINGTON; HAS NO KNOWLEDGE
WHY IT IS TO U.S. ADVANTAGE TO ASK FOR BID EXTENSION
AND WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S COMMENTS. ALSO WOULD
APPRECIATE EMBASSY COORDINATION WITH GA BANGKOK REP TO
DETERMINE NEXT APPROPRIATE ACTION FOR GA. KISSINGER

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: BIC/OED/MEPD/DCLU/LW
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